

A FULL 1578/5505 3

# VINDICATION

OF THE

DUTCHESS DOWAGER

OF

MARLBOROUGH:

BOTH

With regard to the ACCOUNT lately  
Published by

HER GRACE,

AND TO

Her CHARACTER in general;

AGAINST

The *base* and *malicious* Invectives contained in a  
late *scurrilous* Pamphlet, entitled REMARKS  
on the Account, &c.

---

In a Letter to the NOBLE AUTHOR of  
those *Remarks*.

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D U B L I N:

Printed by A. REILLY;

For G. EWING, at the *Angle* and *Bible* in  
*Dame-Street*. M,DCC,XLII.



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*A full Vindication of her Grace the  
Dutchess Dowager of MARLBOROUGH.*

MY LORD,

**W**HETHER the Piece I shall endeavour to answer was your own Performance, or whether it was written on your Command, by one of that Scribbling Gang, which the disbanding Mr. P——ton's late Regiment of Gazetteers hath cast destitute on the Public, I need not determine? In either case, you are entitled to my Answer; which, however, you have not so much reason to be startled at, as you may justly apprehend: for I do not intend to imitate you in Invektive, and shall abstain from any other Reflections than those I shall make on your Remarks, and which are necessary to refute the groundless Slanders you endeavour to throw on an innocent and injured Character.

The Observation with which you set out is strictly true; nay your whole Letter is one continued flagrant Example of it. You say,

‘ It has been often observ’d, that it is extremely  
‘ hard to form a just Notion of the Characters of  
‘ Mankind, from those who are personally interested  
‘ in either justifying or blackening them. In this  
‘ Country, where Party is so prevalent, that no Per-  
‘ son can be supposed to be indifferent with regard to  
‘ public Characters and Transactions, this Observa-

‘ tion holds perhaps more strictly just than any other ;  
 ‘ and Time alone must discover the Motives of many  
 ‘ Actions, and the true Colours of many Characters,  
 ‘ which are now seen thro’ the false glare that Passion  
 ‘ or Prejudice throws upon them.’

It was from this Party-Prejudice you mention, and the Falshoods it daily propagates, that the Dutcheſs of *Marlbrough* was induced to publish an Apology for a Conduct, which appears so truly great and worthy the highest Applause; and it is this Prejudice alone which could instigate any one to attempt to sully and blacken a Character, which that Apology hath placed in so amiable a Light, that a very impartial Reader declared to me on perusing it; “ Why, if this be  
 “ true, the Dutcheſs of *Marlbrough* is one of the  
 “ best as well as greatest Women ever born.”

If the Course of her own Justification hath unavoidably led her Grace to expose some others in disadvantageous Colours, I am convinced she was sorry for it; but sure it is a new Doctrine, and something unreasonable, that the Innocent must suffer, rather than the Guilty should be blamed. I am certain she hath no where departed from Delicacy, as you accuse her; and I am as well convinced, she hath not deviated from Truth. Her Facts appear most of them in Letters from the Parties themselves; which hath been always accounted the best and most certain kind of History; and which, while the Originals remain, must be always allowed to be undeniable Evidence.

But indeed your Opinion of History is pretty singular; for you say, ‘ Even the high Station and Character of the Authoress ought to give an alarm to  
 ‘ your Lordship’s caution; for the greater Opportunities her Grace had of *knowing*, the more deeply  
 ‘ must we suppose her to be interested in *acting*, and  
 ‘ therefore the more solicitous in *vindicating* or *blaming*,  
 ‘ according as it may set her own *Conduct* in the  
 ‘ fairest, and that of her Enemies in the most *disadvantageous* Light.’

So that it seems the *higher* any Person’s Station and Character is, the *lower* is their Credit, and the *more* they

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they know of any Transaction, the *less* capable are they of recording it.

Your Lordship is pleased to proceed thus: As to the first Reason of her Grace's Ascendancy over the Princess of *Denmark*, (*viz.* their playing together when at School) ' it entirely rests upon her Grace's own Word, that the Daughter of Mrs. J——gs,

' who, if we believe the common Report \* \* \*

' \* \* \* had but a \* \*

' \* \* \* \* \*

' \* \* \* \* \*

' very narrow Fortune, was admitted to so much Familiarity with a Princess of so strict and delicate an Education, as that which Princess *Anne* receiv'd.'

What you would have the Reader supply in the Place of these Asterisks, I cannot guess. You are pleased to call her Grace's Veracity in question; and, if I mistake not, would insinuate that Miss *Jennings* had some Levity in her Character, which rendered her unfit for the Company of so strict and delicate a Princess; indeed the same Reason is given a little afterwards, for Lady *Clarendon*'s Dislike to her. Black and detestable Malice! Why did you not assert, that her Grace was never her Lady of the Bedchamber? A Fact not less notorious, and which the same false Insinuations would have better supported, unless the Princess had very early quitted that Strictness and Delicacy of her Education; for surely the same Blemishes which would have rendered Miss *Jennings*, when a Girl, an improper Companion for the Princess, would have made her, when a Woman, very unfit to fill the Post of a Lady of the Bedchamber; nor would the prudent Countess of *Clarendon*, then first Lady of the Bedchamber, have consented to her Admission. But this is indeed the first time, that any Enemy of her Grace hath had the impudence to insinuate the least Hint of such a nature.

As to the Characters of Lady *Clarendon*, and the Princess of *Denmark*, I have nothing to say. Her Grace seems to draw a lively Picture of the former; and the latter hath, in her Letters, drawn her own.

But your Lordship seems to have forgotten some Passages in the Book you are criticising on, when you affirm, That ‘ As her Grace has been pleased to give us no manner of Insight into that part of the Character of her Royal Mistress, which wrought this prodigious Alteration in her Confidence, and no other Account of the Fact, but that she was wormed out by an upstart Favourite, who was in every respect infinitely below her Grace; the World is at liberty to make its own Conjectures.’

Sure, my Lord, this is not the only Account we have from the Dutches, who hath shewn us her Disgrace (if an honest, upright and faithful Servant dismissed, may be said to be disgraced) was owing to the Arts of a designing Politician, a great Master of his Profession, assisted (if you please) by an upstart Favourite, the more dangerous as the least suspected; to her Mistress’s violent Inclination to the Tories, perhaps *Jacobites*, and in favour of some Schemes not necessary here to mention, as some of their Effects have been too fatally felt, and the Intention of others plainly and undeniably known.

I shall take no other notice of that on which your Lordship hath been pleased to throw away so much of your Time and Paper, I mean the Dutches’s Assertion concerning my Lord *Clarendon*, than that, what the Bishop says on *his proposing to have King James sent to Breda*, agrees better with her Grace’s Account of *his having advised the sending him to the Tower*, than with the Reasons for which you would have it believed impossible for any Man in his senses to have given such advice. Your Words are, ‘ It is sufficient to observe, that the Consultation which her Grace mentions to have been held at *Windsor*, was held at so critical a time that no Man in his Senses could be supposed to have given such an Advice: For King *James* by that time had return’d to *London* from *Feverham*, and remained at *Whitehall*. And to use Bishop *Burnet*’s own Words, All the Indignation which the People of *London* had formerly conceived against him was turned into Pity and  
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\* *Burnet*

‘ Compassion. Even the Privy-Council, in whose  
 ‘ Hands the executive part of the Government ap-  
 ‘ pears at that time to \* have been look’d upon by  
 ‘ him to be as much their King as ever; and, conti-  
 ‘ nues the Bishop, *as he came back through the City he*  
 ‘ *was welcomed with Signs of Joy by great Numbers.*  
 ‘ The Earl of *Clarendon* then must be supposed to  
 ‘ have been void of common Sense, if while this  
 ‘ Disposition of the People continued, he advis’d of  
 ‘ sending the King to the *Tower of London.*’

Now, surely, this was as good a Reason, why no  
 Man of common Sense should propose sending the  
 King to *Breda*, as why he should not propose sending  
 him to the *Tower*. But what says the Bishop; ‘ be-  
 ‘ cause it might raise too much Compassion, and per-  
 ‘ haps some Disorder, that the King should be kept  
 ‘ in restraint within the Kingdoms; therefore the  
 ‘ sending him to *Breda* was proposed. The Earl of  
 ‘ *Clarendon* press’d this vehemently, on account of the  
 ‘ *Irish* Protestants, as the King himself told me; for  
 ‘ those that gave their Opinion in this Matter did it  
 ‘ secretly, and in Confidence to the Prince: The  
 ‘ Prince said he could not deny but that this might be  
 ‘ good and wise Advice.’ Can any thing be more  
 congruous, at least, less repugnant than these two Ac-  
 counts? The Prince, whom his Enemies can send to  
 one Place, may be by them sent to any other; and  
 indeed, both these Proposals might very reasonably,  
 in the same Debate, be supposed to have come from  
 the same Person, who finding the Proposal of sending  
 the King to the *Tower* rejected for the Reasons the  
 Bishop gives, might advance or second that of sending  
 him to *Breda*; so that here is no such *flat Contradiction*,  
 as your Lordship hath been pleased to observe.

I am come now to a most notable Paragraph in-  
 deed, wherein I may hope to shew your Lordship as  
 flat a Contradiction as is to be found in any Writer  
 whatever. It will be necessary to transcribe a good  
 part of the Passage. Your Lordship after giving us

\* Burnet’s Hist. of his own Times, Vol. 1. p. 799.

Bishop *Burnet's* Opinion of King *William's* Designs, and some Anecdotes out of that Right Reverend Author, of the King's Behaviour before the Establishment of the Crown, proceeds thus:

‘ Admitting this to be a true and genuine Account of what passed upon this important Occasion, it amounts to no more than that the Prince of *Orange* acted a very fair and open Part, by telling them he expected to be King, which he did not at all wish for, or that he would do a Thing that every wise Man ought to do if he was disappointed; which was to retire, and do all the Service he could in his own Station to his native Country. But if one take her Grace's Account of this Transaction, the Prince had no other Motive for coming over to *England*, but *meer Ambition of wearing a Crown*. \* Having never read, continues her Grace, nor employ'd my time in any thing, but playing at Cards, and having no Ambition myself, I imagin'd that the Prince of *Orange's* sole Design, was to provide for the Safety of his own Country, by obliging King *James* to keep the Laws of ours. And that he would get back as soon as he had made us all happy; and that there was no sort of Difficulty in the Execution of this Design, and that to do so much Good would be a greater Pleasure to him than to be King of any Country upon Earth. I was soon taught to know the World better. I say, one who reads these Words, will be apt to conclude that King *William*, even upon the first Concert of his Expedition to *England*, was determin'd at all Events to dethrone his Father-in-Law, though I am unwilling to believe that this was the Case; I will only observe, that if it was, it is extremely improbable that her Grace, notwithstanding all her Professions of Sincerity, was ignorant of the Design upon this Occasion. I cannot help laying before your Lordship a Fact, which I had from the late E. of *N — m*, of a near Relation of your Lordship, who was very deep in the Con-

\* Account, p. 21.

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‘ cert, and too worthy a Man to impose either upon  
 ‘ me or the World. He told me, that immediately  
 ‘ upon the Prince of *Orange’s* Landing there was a  
 ‘ visible Coldness and Backwardness in the Nobility  
 ‘ and Gentry, to declare in his Favour; upon which,  
 ‘ the Prince called a Meeting of those he could most  
 ‘ depend upon, and told them in plain Terms, that  
 ‘ as he had ventur’d so far, to support them, it was  
 ‘ not to be expected, he was to do it for nothing,  
 ‘ and that he would have never been so mad to have  
 ‘ exposed himself and his Country to unavoidable  
 ‘ Ruin, had he not had very strong Assurances from  
 ‘ *England* before he set out, that he should be sup-  
 ‘ ported even to the uttermost. That upon this he  
 ‘ produced an Instrument signed by the most eminent  
 ‘ Persons, who afterwards declared most eminent’y for  
 ‘ the Revolution; in which they engage themselves  
 ‘ to support his Highness in forming that very Plan  
 ‘ of Government, by which the Crown was settled  
 ‘ upon the Abdication of King *James*. That the  
 ‘ Names not only of the Subscribers themselves were  
 ‘ signed to this Instrument, but of those whom they  
 ‘ engaged to bring over to the Prince; and that a-  
 ‘ mongst others he saw that of the Lord *Churchill*,  
 ‘ who by means of his Lady engag’d to bring over  
 ‘ the Prince and Princess of *Denmark*. If this is  
 ‘ fact, it is highly improbable, nay it is impossible,  
 ‘ but that her Grace, considering the Ascendancy  
 ‘ she always had over her Husband, should be so  
 ‘ vastly surpriz’d as she now affects to be at the  
 ‘ News of the Prince of *Orange* accepting of the  
 ‘ Crown.’

In the first place, I do not see, that whoever reads  
 the Words, I WAS SOON TAUGHT TO KNOW THE  
 WORLD BETTER, “ will be apt to conclude, that  
 “ King *William*, even upon the first Concert of his  
 “ Expedition to *England*, was determined at all Events  
 “ to dethrone his Father-in-Law.” This is such a  
 Conclusion, as Dr. *South* says, which may well be said  
 to be drawn from the Words, since I am sure it never  
 would



would follow.—But to the Fact itself, which is to impeach her Grace's Veracity. The late E. of N—— told somebody that told your Lordship, that somebody had told the Earl (for he was not then present) that King *William* immediately upon his Landing called a Meeting of the Nobility and Gentry, &c.

*First*, 'Till long after his Landing, he had no Nobility nor Gentry with him.

*2dly*, it is very improbable, indeed almost impossible to conceive, that a Man of King *William's* *phlegmatick and cool Temper* should expose an Instrument of this Nature, which if he had been successful in his Expedition, as he had then some Reason to doubt, would have hanged every one of those Friends who had set their Hands to it: for Anger itself could not move the hottest Mind to such a Step; (and King *William* is by this Writer truly represented as *slow in taking Revenge*) since it was not the Gentlemen of the Country of whose Backwardness alone he could complain, whom he was to expose to the Vengeance of King *James*, but of his Friends above, who could not possibly have joined him so soon; and from most of whom, he was too good a Politician to expect so open and hasty a Declaration in his favour, though he was assured of their private Services.

*3dly*, If the Prince of *Orange* was so desirous to conceal his original Intentions of aiming at the Crown (admitting he had such) he cannot be supposed, without an entire Subversion of his Character, to expose an Instrument so openly and rashly, in which *it was engaged to support his Royal Highness in forming that very Plan of Government, by which the Crown was settled on the Abdication of King James*.

*4thly*, If he had taken so rash and ill-advis'd a Step, he would never afterwards have been guilty of so preposterous a Conduct, as with the most manifest Chicanery to deny a Design he had publicly and openly avowed, and which, (if what this Somebody relates had been true) his Enemies could have incontestably proved against him.

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5thly, Bishop *Burnet*, who was present, would hardly have omitted such a notable Fact; or if it should be said, he omitted it from his Friendship to King *William*, a Motive which will, I believe, hardly gain Credit against so impartial an Historian; surely those who have written against King *William*, both at home and abroad, would have mentioned a Fact, which, if true, must have been so generally known.

But *Lastly*, If you really believe this to be fact, how can you assert, as you do in the preceding Page, that you believe he had no Design of procuring the Crown at the first Concert of his Expedition? How can your Lordship assert in one Page (I say) that *you believe he had concerted no such Design*, and in the next, *that he came over on these express Terms*. This sure, my Lord, is very near a round, if not a flat Contradiction.

I shall not enter on the Character of King *William*; her Grace knew him better than I, nor is there any reason to suspect her Partiality: But here your Lordship is singular in an Opinion that *harsh Treatment* obliges us to *conceal* the Faults of an Enemy. This is indeed an extraordinary Flight of Christianity.

The next Remark I shall trouble your Lordship with, is on your Conclusion in Page 19, which is likewise so lame, that your whole Strength is required to draw it. Your Quotation is as follows:

‘ I confess, says her Grace, had I been in her Place,  
 ‘ the Princess of *Denmark*, I should have thought it  
 ‘ more for my Honour to be easy in this Matter than  
 ‘ to shew an Impatience to get Possession of a Crown  
 ‘ that had been wrested from my Father. I believe  
 ‘ no body ever either spoke or wrote in this Manner,  
 ‘ but with a Design of accusing the Person in whose  
 ‘ Stead they wish themselves to be. And as it ought,  
 ‘ continues her Grace, to have been a great Trouble  
 ‘ to the Children of King *James* to be forced to act  
 ‘ the Part they did against him, so it seem’d to me  
 ‘ that she who discover’d the less Ambition would  
 ‘ have the more amiable Character. There it is very  
 ‘ plain that by the Expression, *and as it ought to have*  
 ‘ *been*, &c. her Grace implies, that *the thing was not*;  
 ‘ therefore

therefore her Grace speaking in the plural, must mean  
 ‘ that both the Children of King *James*, viz. Queen  
 ‘ *Mary* and the Princess of *Denmark*, did shew an Im-  
 ‘ patience to get Possession of a Crown that was wrested  
 ‘ from their Father.’

I own, indeed, we are taught to confess that we  
 have done those things we ought not to have done, and  
 left undone those things we ought to have done; but to  
 say, that this is an eternal Obligation on our Nature,  
 to affirm that the bare supposing a Thing ought to have  
 been done, is consequently affirming that it was not;  
 this is to be a very strong Advocate for the Necessity of  
 human Actions. I shall make no Reflection on the  
 Character of Queen *Mary*; but why the Silence of the  
*Jacobites* or the Reverence of the *Whigs*, should deter  
 the Dutchess from attacking her, I can no more see,  
 than I can think the Obligations which she had to  
 Queen *Anne* (which her own faithful Conduct, and the  
 immortal and barbarously and ungratefully returned  
 Services of her glorious Husband so well and nobly  
 deserved) incapable of being obliterated by any future  
 ill Treatment: Or why any Attachment to the Cha-  
 racters of these Princesses should restrain her from a  
 just Vindication of her own. Your Arguments are in-  
 deed very curious, if not strong. I will therefore quote  
 the whole Passage, as well as that of the Inscription,  
 with your Observations on it. You say, it would be  
 decent in the Dutchess to conceal any thing which  
 might cast a Reflection on Queen *Mary*, because her  
 Character ‘ has never yet been attack’d by the most  
 ‘ bigotted Jacobite, and has always been had in great  
 ‘ Veneration by the greatest Whigs. As to that of  
 ‘ Queen *Anne*, her Grace lies under so many Obliga-  
 ‘ tions to support and defend it, against all Attempts  
 ‘ to blacken it, that it is the Height of Imprudence, to  
 ‘ call it by no worse a Name, to attack it in the Man-  
 ‘ ner her Grace does in the above Passages. But the  
 ‘ Matter does not rest here; for we find that what her  
 ‘ Grace insinuates, or rather asserts here, is directly  
 ‘ in contradiction to that solemn Inscription which her  
 ‘ Grace consign’d to Marble, sign’d by herself, as the

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‘ Character of Queen *Anne*, upon the Pedestal of the  
 ‘ Statue erected to her Memory at *Blenheim*. We  
 ‘ therefore see instead of shewing her Impatience to get  
 ‘ Possession of her Father’s Crown, she look’d with the  
 ‘ greatest Indifference upon that of her Brother-in-  
 ‘ Law, tho’ he wore it in prejudice of her own Right.  
 What are her Words?

‘ QUEEN *ANNE*—WAS RELIGIOUS WITHOUT  
 ‘ AFFECTATION; SHE ALWAYS MEANT WELL;  
 ‘ SHE HAD NO FALSE AMBITION; WHICH  
 ‘ APPEARED BY HER NEVER COMPLAINING AT  
 ‘ KING *WILLIAM*’S BEING PREFERRED TO THE  
 ‘ CROWN BEFORE HER, WHEN IT WAS TAKEN FROM  
 ‘ THE KING HER FATHER, FOR FOLLOWING SUCH  
 ‘ COUNSELS AND PURSUING SUCH MEASURES AS  
 ‘ MADE THE REVOLUTION NECESSARY. IT WAS  
 ‘ HER GREATEST AFFLICTION TO BE  
 ‘ FORCED TO ACT AGAINST HIM, EVEN  
 ‘ FOR SECURITY.

‘ If any impartial Person should compare these Lines  
 ‘ with the above Quotations from the Account of her  
 ‘ Conduct, would he not draw one of these two Con-  
 ‘ clusions; either *that the Character is not drawn for*  
 ‘ *the same Person, or that it was not the same Per-*  
 ‘ *son who drew it?*’

The Character her Grace hath been pleased to in-  
 scribe on her Monument, erected to the Memory of  
 Queen *Anne*, is an Instance of the Goodness and Gra-  
 titude of her Temper; and tho’ perhaps these have in-  
 clined her to carry Truth as far as possible, yet is there  
 nothing on this Marble inconsistent with what her  
 Grace hath since committed to Paper: She hath not  
 taxed her with Ambition, she hath not denied that it  
 was her greatest Affliction to be forced to act against  
 her Father; and so far from questioning her Religion,  
 she hath imputed many of her Actions to a Fondness  
 for even the Shadow of it, *the Church*.

Your Lordship is facetious about Parsons and old  
 Women; nor can I think you much in earnest, when  
 you represent the Revolution to be no instance of the  
 People’s electing a King. If my Lords of *Clarendon*

and *Rocheſter* adviſed the Princeſs to give up her Right of Blood in order to defend it, they were, I think, no great Logicians. I am ſure they were no great Lawyers, if they imagined preferring King *William* to a joint Eſtate in the Crown, and afterwards to the Re- verſion of the whole before Queen *Anne*, was not an inſtance of their uſing the Right of Election. As ſuch it was underſtood by all who wrote on the Subject on both ſides; and if a Precedent could eſtabliſh a Right, I think that Right of Election could never hereafter be called in queſtion.

Whether my Lord *Marlborough's* Diſgrace in King *William's* time was owing to his being Huſband to Lady *Marlborough*, as you ſay, I know not: but certain I am, that the Merits of her illuſtrious Huſband ſhould have protected the Dutcheſs from any Diſgrace in Queen *Anne's* time, and ſhould have endeared her to the whole Nation. If the Wives and Widows of great Men have been eſteemed in all Countries: If I have ſeen in a very public Aſſembly a Reſpect paid to the Wife of a Man who lately took an undefended Town in the *West-Indies*; what Honours ſhould be paid to the Conſort of that Glorious Man, who carried the Honour of our Arms ſo high, and by ſuch a Series of Courage, Conduct and Succeſs, preſerved the Liberties of *Europe*?

As your Lordſhip is pleaſed to bring in Biſhop *Burnet*, confirming almoſt every thing which her Grace hath ſaid relating to the Quarrel between the two Siſters, I will likewiſe repeat his Words once more to you:

' The Princeſs of *Denmark*, ſays that Prelate, ' thought herſelf too much neglected by the King, ' whole cold way towards her was ſoon obſerved. ' After the King was on the Throne no Propoſitions ' were made to her of a Settlement, nor any Advan- ' ces of Money. So ſhe thinking ſhe was to be kept in ' a neceſſitous Dependance on the Court, got ſome ' to move in the Houſe of Commons in the Year 1698; ' when they were in the Debate concerning the Re- ' venue, that ſhe ſhould have Aſſignments ſuitable to ' her

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her Dignity. This both King and Queen took amiss from her.—The Act pass'd, allowing her a Settlement of Fifty Thousand Pounds. But upon this a Coldness follow'd between not only the King, but even the Queen and Princess. And the blame of this Motion was cast upon the Countess of Marlborough, as most in favour with the Princess: And this had contributed much to alienate the King from her Husband, and had disposed him to receive ill Impressions of him.'

It is impossible to give a stronger Confirmation of the Truth of her Grace's Account.

Let us survey the next Paragraph, which hath any thing material in it. In Page 25, is the following:

'As to the different Character of the two Sisters, I believe your Lordship upon reflecting a little upon the Nature of the Fair Sex in general, will agree with me, that no such Disagreement could ever have happened from the Causes assigned by her Grace.

\* *It was impossible, says her Grace, that they should ever be very agreeable Companions together, because Queen Mary grew weary of any body who would not talk a great deal, and the Princess was so silent that she rarely spoke more than was necessary to answer a Question.* I believe the World will allow, that Bishop Burnet was at least as good a Judge of Queen Mary's private Character, as ever her Grace was, who, as would appear, had scarcely any opportunity of knowing it. But she gives her a Character, that with regard to her Quality, if I am not quite out of my Judgment as to Woman-kind, is quite the reverse of that given by her Grace. For the Prelate says, that *Queen Mary lov'd to talk a great deal*: Now I may venture to appeal to all the Experience of that Sex, if there was ever found a Woman who lov'd to talk a great deal herself, and yet at the same time grew weary of every body who did not talk a great deal too. Admitting Bishop Burnet's Character of Queen Mary in this respect to be the true one,

• Account p. 24.



‘ because he knew her best ; and likewise the Character which her Grace gives of the Princess of Denmark to be a true one too, viz. \* *That the Princess was so silent that she rarely spoke more than was necessary to answer a Question* : I say, admitting these two Characters to be true in both respects, we have the very best reason in the World for wondering why a perpetual Harmony did not subsist betwixt the two Sisters ; since no Person in the World can be so agreeable to a woman who loves to talk a great deal, as another who loves to talk very little.’

Sure your Lordship hath too much insight into the Fair Sex, and into human Nature in general, to be in earnest. Indeed, it is true, that talkative Women, and talkative Men too, are sometimes fond of one who will be *Auditor tantum* ; but this listening must be with the greatest Attention, must be accompanied with frequent assenting Nods, Smiles, and Words too, and is what no one ever finds but amongst Inferiors and Dependents, and not in an Equal of a solemn and fullen Disposition, and of a different way of thinking ; who would be very absent in Attention, and would not fail of betraying in Looks and Gestures sufficient Marks of Dislike, and perhaps Contempt ; which silent People generally have for those of a loquacious Temper. Besides, doth not common Experience teach us, that Gossips always affect one another’s Company ? Nor is there the least inconvenience, since a dozen Women can talk all together, without the least Interruption or Disturbance one to another.

As to Queen Mary’s Behaviour, as the Dutchess relates it, on her first coming to *White-Hall*, I apprehend any Spectator of Humanity would have formed the same Conclusions with her Grace from it. If it proceeded from the Prince’s Orders, as Bishop *Burnet* tells us, it doth indeed in some measure justify the Queen ; but lays no imputation on the Dutchess, who knew not of those Orders.

\* Account, p. 25.

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In Page 28, you proceed as follows : “ \* Her Grace next relates upon hearsay, an angry Conversation that pass’d between the two Royal Sisters, upon the Subject of the Princess’s Settlement, which went so well in the House of Commons, that their Friends being encouraged to propose a much larger Revenue, the King, in order to prevent it, prorogued the Parliament. But her Grace, tho’ she takes care to let us know that the whole of this Affair lay upon herself, leaves us entirely in doubt by what means it happened, that the Intention of augmenting the Settlement was defeated. All we can learn is, that the King thought proper to compound the matter with the Princess’s Friends ; at the same time we don’t learn by her Grace’s Account that the Princess had any other Friend but herself ; nay it would appear from the \* Applications made to her by my Lady Fitzharding, and my Lord Shrewsbury, the two Persons of the greatest Credit at Court, that she was considered as the Manager of the whole on the side of the Princess. I shall therefore offer an Insinuation which I have heard made to the Disadvantage of her Grace by the Tories, who certainly were at that time strong enough in Parliament to have carried a large Settlement for the Princess, and were heartily inclined to have done it, had they not been deceived by a secret Collusion betwixt the Courts and those in whom the Princess put her chief confidence.”

This, your Lordship justly indeed calls an Insinuation, you might have added a cruel one ; for you found it only on the common Report of the Tories, who, on your own Principles, are not to be received as very credible Witnesses against her Grace ; but as the Affirmative is not supported by any Proof or Pretence of Proof whatever, so I will venture to say the Negative may be demonstrated by all the Evidence of Reason and Common Sense. For, can we suppose, if her Grace could be prevailed on to betray the Interest of the Princess to the King and Queen, that they would

\* Account, p. 27.

† Account, p. 29.

have desired her (as the Bishop, the World, and your Lordship agree they did) to part with a Servant who was so effectually their Spy and Tool? Or if she had afterwards disoblighd them, might not this have been used as the certain means of destroying her with her Mistress. I omit the handsome Reflection cast on a Brother and Sister, who would be base enough to corrupt the Sister's Servant to betray her Interest. But can any thing equal your Lordship's Saying, that her Grace hath left us intirely in doubt by what means the Defeat happened, when she plainly and expressly tells us, it happened from the King's purposely pro-roguing the Parliament.

The Reason given by the Dutcheſs why the Prince of Denmark preferred the Sea to the Land-Service, is a good and substantial one, and not to be overthrown by your Lordship's asserting, ' You cannot conceive ' why his Highness should have a Passion for going to ' Sea, merely because the King could not suffer him ' to go in a Coach with him in Ireland.' A Neglect to which, I believe, few Princesses so nearly affianced would submit.

You will pardon me, my Lord, if I censure your Remark in the next Paragraph, as deficient in that Candour which becomes a generous Adversary, especially a Writer who pretends to no more than an Enquiry after Truth, or a Refutation of Falshood. You say, ' You shall make no other Remark upon the Letter which her Grace has given us from Queen Mary ' to her Sister, than that it is plain, that the Queen ' thought that my Lord M——— had given his ' Majesty more Cause of Displeasure than what appears to the World, and that she had informed the ' Princess of it before. This appears from the following Passage: *I need not repeat, says the Queen, the Cause he has given the King to do what he has done, nor his Unwillingness at all times to come to such Extremities, tho' People do deserve it.*

Now, my Lord, the Sense you here put upon the Word *repeat*, is what it will not in common Usage bear; for I will appeal to your Lordship's Reflection, and

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and to the whole World, whether this Word in all epistolary Correspondence is not used to mean the inserting something in a Letter which hath happened, tho' not related by the Person who writes to the Correspondent. For Instance: *I will not repeat to you what happened at such a Place, or what was said by such a Person, &c.* And this in Writers, of much greater Accuracy than Queens can generally be supposed. Queen *Mary* therefore means here by the Word *repeat*, no more than if she had writ, *I need not tell you*: for indeed if the Queen had communicated this before, I see no reason why she should even mention it again, unless with a Desire of insulting her Sister; a Censure I am unwilling to cast upon her.

I come now to the most notable Paragraph of all; to introduce which, indeed all the rest seems chiefly written; and yet pompous as this is, it is no more than the Repetition of an old thread-bare Falshood, invented by the *Jacobites*, and long since disbelieved and laughed out of the World. Let us see the whole Paragraph:

‘ But, in justice to the Memory of this Princess, I  
 ‘ cannot avoid acquainting your Lordship with a Fact  
 ‘ which I had from a Person of the greatest Consideration in that and the succeeding Reign; who told  
 ‘ me, upon my seeming surprized at the Motives that  
 ‘ could induce King *William* to treat my Lord M—  
 ‘ with the Severity he did; that it was wholly owing  
 ‘ to the Indiscretion of a Lady, whom I am unwilling  
 ‘ to name, but whom your Lordship and the World  
 ‘ will easily guess at. He said, that a *French* Engineer, who had received some Disgust from his Officers, had come over at that time from *France*, and  
 ‘ had laid before King *William* a Plan by which *Dunkirk* might be surprized. That the Plan was examined and approved of by King *William*, who admitted nobody into the Secret but *Bentink*, *Zulestein*, and my Lord M——; but that before the  
 ‘ Execution of the Design such Orders came from the  
 ‘ *French* Court, and such a Number of Forces were  
 ‘ pour’d into *Dunkirk*, as plainly shewed that the De-  
 ‘ sign

‘ sign was discovered. He said, that King *William*  
 ‘ immediately suspected my Lord *M——*, but was un-  
 ‘ willing to discover his Suspicions till he could have  
 ‘ Proofs, which he soon had by means of a Spy from  
 ‘ the Court of *St. Germain*, who was seiz’d here, and  
 ‘ confess’d that he was employed as an Agent betwixt  
 ‘ my Lady *Tyrconnel* and King *James’s* Queen. And  
 ‘ that this Person, upon hopes not only of Pardon but  
 ‘ Reward, directed the Government to a Packet from  
 ‘ *France*, which discovered that my Lady *Tyrconnel*,  
 ‘ by means of a certain Lady who gave her all her  
 ‘ Confidence, and to whom my Lord *M——* was  
 ‘ so weak as to discover the Design. That the King  
 ‘ upon this sent for Lord *M——*, and reproached him  
 ‘ with his Easiness; upon which the latter confessed  
 ‘ the whole. This Incident accounts pretty well for  
 ‘ the Insinuation which is dropp’d by Queen *Mary* in  
 ‘ this Letter, and it was no wonder afterwards if the  
 ‘ King was a little too susceptible of a Prejudice against  
 ‘ the Earl when he was committed to the *Tower*.’

Here is an Insinuation of the blackest and most  
 heinous kind, against a Person of the highest Dignity,  
 thrown out without an Author, or any sort of Proof  
 whatever. Her Grace’s high Station and Character  
 surely require, that the Name or Title of this Person  
 of Consideration should be mentioned at least, and  
 even then we may doubt whether it came from him,  
 or whether he spoke truth if it did: Tho’, by the  
 way, admitting all true that is here asserted, the Dut-  
 ches may nevertheless be innocent: Here were three  
 more Persons, to wit, *Bentink*, *Zulestein*, and the En-  
 gineer himself in this Secret; and why none of them  
 as capable of discovering it as the Earl of *Marlborough*?  
 But can we believe, that if this had been the Reason  
 of the King’s Prejudice against the Earl, as is asserted,  
 that he would have concealed this Reason? or if the  
 Discovery could have been brought home to the Dut-  
 ches, that the King and Queen, whom (as is confess’d  
 on all hands) were her Enemies, would have kept this  
 Treachery in her a Secret? or that her other En-  
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and Malice had created her many) would not have promulgated, with the utmost diligence, a Story which would not only have justified their Resentment, but would have rendered it indecent even for the Princess to retain her longer in her Service. These things, I say, would almost inevitably follow the Belief of this pretended Fact ; which, had it been true, it is impossible to conceive, should in so short a time be obliged to subsist only on a Report which a nameless Author had from a nameless Person ; a kind of Evidence which would not be admitted to blacken the Character of the lowest of Creatures, but which is admirably calculated to spread what *Cicero* calls *Contumelia* ; it is a Bow to shoot those Arrows of Detraction from, which (according to an excellent Writer of our Church) are always flying about in the Dark, and against which no Power but of that God who sees and knows all things, can defend the greatest and best Characters.

You are pleased, my Lord, to say you will make no Remarks on the Difference ‘ that happen’d betwixt the Queen and the Princess, on account of the ‘ latter being obstinate in keeping my Lady C—— ‘ about her Person : Her Grace (you say) has prevented me in this, \* by vindicating her Conduct, with ‘ regard to the important Points, that of the Succession, and that of the Pension, and that of the Prince’s ‘ going to Sea.’ You are right in avoiding any such Remarks ; the Account her Grace hath given is satisfactory to every impartial Reader, and is and will be unimpeached by the Malice of Party and Prejudice.

Your Lordship says, ‘ But with regard to the two ‘ Letters given us from the Princess of *Orange* to her ‘ Grace, I think nothing more can be said, but that ‘ there was a time when the Princess of *Orange* thought ‘ very well of my Lady C——, and a time when ‘ Queen *Mary* thought very ill of her. A Case that ‘ happens every Day in private Life.’ Yes, my Lord, something more may be said ; and it is, *That there was a time when the Princess was Princess of Orange, and a time when she was Queen Mary : and then* what

\* Account, p. 49.



what follows will be truly a Case that happens every day.

Your Lordship's next Fling, agreeable to the Malice of the Party, is at the Duke.

' Her Grace, in apologizing for her own and her Husband's Conduct, says, that, every one knows that my Lord *Marlborough* had great Employments under King *James*, and might have hoped to be as great a Favourite as any body.—— It was highly improbable therefore that he who had done so much, and sacrificed so much for the Preservation of the Religion and Liberty of his Country, shou'd on a sudden engage in a Conspiracy to destroy them. But this is, according to what her Grace herself seems to own, but a poor Compliment to the Integrity and Disinterestedness of the Earl of *M*——; for it seems to be not only the Opinion of her Grace, but of the World, that the Designs of King *James* were so weakly laid, and so foolishly carried on, that for a Man to have embark'd in them, was to involve himself into unavoidable Ruin.'

The Colours which your Lordship throws on my Lord of *Marlborough's* Conduct, in leaving King *James*, and adhering to the Prince of *Orange*, are what may be, and generally are applied to every great Action, which those who are strangers to the Motives of true Greatness and Virtue, always impute to mean, private, and mercenary Designs. It is easy to see into Consequences, when they have happened; but I believe many then alive apprehended more Danger in the Success of those weak Measures than your Lordship seems to think they threatned: Nay, even at last, it hath been made a Doubt by many, if King *James* had not deserted the Crown, whether it would have been taken from him: and if he had retained it, let the Restraints under which he had been laid been what they will, the Duke of *Marlborough* cou'd have expected no Forgiveness, nor Restoration to his Favour.

You are pleased to say you will make no other Remark on those warm friendly Letters from the Princess of *Denmark* to her Grace, than what your Lordship

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ship hath made on those of *Queen Mary*; to which therefore I shall give the same Answer: You then ask a Question; ' But is there any thing wonderful, any thing unaccountable, any thing criminal in one's altering their Opinion of Woman-kind! Or are Princes oblig'd to give the World an Account of the Motives that induce them to do it? Perhaps, indeed, there is nothing *wonderful* in the Alteration of one's Opinion of another; but surely the Dismission of an old faithful Servant, after a long continued Execution of the greatest Trust with Integrity, conceiving a sudden Dislike after the highest Friendship and Familiarity with an Inferiour for many Years, removing and displacing such a Servant from her Office and Trust without any visible Reason, or condescending, even when ardently desired, to assign any; sure such Conduct is not so perfectly *accountable*, if clear from being *criminal*, as you would imagine. And if *Princes are not obliged to give the World an Account of the Motives* that induce them to such extraordinary Actions, surely the lowest Subjects, much more the highest, are at liberty to justify themselves if the malicious part of the World lays the Blame on their Misconduct.

I am desirous with the utmost caution to avoid Reflections on any Person's Character. I shall therefore take no more Notice of what you say concerning my Lord *Rocheſter*, than to observe, that if he had the Queen wholly in his Hands at the time of the Order being sent my Lord *Nott*—*m* to the simple Mayor of *Bath*, the Dutchess in imputing it to Lord *Rocheſter*, deals no harder with his Lordship, than hath been ever done with all Favourites and Ministers, who must be contented to bear the Blame and Burthen of whatever is done, not only by their Sovereigns themselves, but by all their Inferiours in Office. Nor is it likely that any one without Orders from the Queen, or from him who govern'd the Queen, would have dared to attempt such a Measure with such a Person; nor indeed doth it appear that Lord *Nottingham* himself had  
any

any Motive for so doing: to which I shall beg leave to add the Dutchess's own Words:

' *The King being abroad when this Letter was writ: and the Queen being at that Time wholly in my Lord Rochester's hands, every Body concluded, that it was done by his Advice: And I am myself the more fully persuaded of it, for the Fondness he discovered for such sort of Pageantry, when (in the Beginning of Queen Anne's Reign) he made his Progress in those Parts, and took Pains in begging Treats, and Speeches from such Sort of People. But it must be own'd, that his Lordship had a singular Taste for trifling Ceremonies.*

The Character which her Grace gives the Earl of Godolphin, your Lordship says requires Notice, and I readily agree with you it does: for it is an extraordinary and a true one. The Passage you quote is as follows:

' The Princess, after this, continued at *Berkley-House*, in a very quiet Way; for there was nothing more to be done, unless they would stop her Revenue, which doubtless they would have attempted, had they thought it practicable; but my Lord Godolphin was then first Commissioner of the Treasury, a Man esteemed very useful to the Service, and who they knew would quit upon any Orders; and they could not easily have found a Person with Qualities fit for that Employment.'

You are pleased to say: ' It is very surprizing that one who knows the World so well as her Grace does, should write in this Manner. Upon the Terms in which she represents the Princess of Denmark to have stood with King William and Queen Mary, can it be imagined that had these two Princes inclined to have stopt the Revenue of the Princess, they would have been frighten'd from the Attempt, merely because they conceived that one of their own Servants would oppose it? Is this agreeable to that positive determined Conduct for which King William was always remarkable.'

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King *William's* Understanding, and may well deter him from a Step of so extraordinary a Nature.

As to the Account of the Queen's Behaviour related by Bishop *Burnet*, and that given us by her Grace, I cannot observe any such Disagreement or Contradiction, as your Lordship mentions. Indeed, that of the Dutchess is fuller and more particular, as she had undoubtedly more Opportunity of knowing the whole. The Bishop says, ' That the Queen when she was dying had received a kind Letter from, and had sent a reconciling Message to the Princess; and so that Breach was made up. It is true, the Sisters did not meet; it was thought, that might *throw the Queen into too great a Commotion*; so it was put off till it was too late.'

Her Grace gives us the following Relation: ' As I knew, says she, that several People, and even one of the Princess's own Family, were allowed to see the Queen, I was fully persuaded, that the deferring the Princess's Coming, was only to leave room for continuing the Quarrel, in case the Queen should chance to recover, or for Reconciliation with the King, (if that should be thought convenient) in case of the Queen's Death. During all the time of the Queen's Illness, to her Decease, the Princess sent every Day to enquire how she did; and once I am sure her Majesty heard of it, because my Lady *Fitzharding*, who was charg'd with her Message, and who had more desire than ordinary to see the Queen, broke in whether they would or not, and delivered it to her, endeavouring to express in how much Concern the Princess was; to which the Queen returned no other Answer but a cold Thanks: Nor, though she received the Sacrament in her Illness, did she ever send the least Message to the Princess, except that in my Lady *Derby's* Letter, which perhaps her Majesty knew nothing of.'

What Incongruity? The Bishop is a Confirmation of all the Dutchess says, and both agree in the material Points, That the Queen sent but one Message, and that she died without seeing her Sister.

I come now to a most wonderful Discovery indeed, no less, than *that Lord Marlborough and his Lady were the two staunchest Tories in the Kingdom.*

The Proofs of this are ;

1. That at Queen *Anne's* coming to the Crown, notwithstanding the Favour in which the Dutchess then stood, she put herself (as the Dutchess complains) entirely into the Hands of the Tories. This is represented as a Contradiction, *viz.* that a Prince should act contrary to the Opinion of her Favourite.

2. The Disfavour this Lord and Lady were in at Court, during all the time that King *William* employed the Whigs. Tho' this Disfavour hath been accounted for, so many other ways already.

3. The Earls of *Marlborough* and *Godolphin* were continued in their Posts, and caress'd and followed by the Tories.

4. Were believed to be such by the Queen.

5. Were educated in those Principles.

It may indeed be probable, that the Tories, at the Beginning of the Queen's Reign, perceiving that her Love for the Church had not yet wormed my Lady *Marlborough* out of her Affections, and that it would be difficult to displace the two Earls in whom she placed so deserved a Confidence, might content themselves to unite with Persons who had no Violence of Party, nor were extremely zealous, unless in what they imagined to be the true Interest of their Country. This I say, is probable : for we have seen Whigs and Tories of later Days, unite and agree in Place very well together. Nay farther, it is probable that the Earls, to engage the Favour of the Queen and to serve her effectually, as they afterwards DID, IN THE HIGHEST DEGREE, might, by their Conversation and Intimacy with some Men, give the Tories, who are good-natured Politicians, Reasons to imagine they were better Tories in their Hearts, than they afterwards found them : But if they were really so, whence the Whig Ministry, under which those glorious Victories, the Defence and Preservation of *Europe's* Liberties, were obtained ? whence the Cry of the *Church in Dan-*

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ger? whence that Opposition to those Earls, which ended in their being turned out, after all their faithful and eminent Services? A black Spot in the History of that Reign, which your Lordship will never be able to whiten.

Your Lordship is pleased to say, *that the Pains her Grace is at in vindicating her Conduct from the Imputation of private View, is very studied*: I do not know what you would be understood to mean by *studied*; if you would say, her Grace hath taken the Trouble to write several Sheets, containing, an Account of Matters of Fact, attested by the strongest and most undeniable Evidence, (Letters and public Accounts of the Nature of Records,) to convince the World that she was a faithful honest, upright and thrifty Servant to her Mistress, both before and after she was Queen; I shall agree with you, and so will the World. But I cannot so readily own, *that Truth and Sincerity will always speak for themselves, and require no other Advocates but their own good Effects*. Daily Experience must convince the blindest of us of the Blots which Malice, Envy and Ingratitude can throw on the whitest Name. Nay, I wish that the very Paper now under my Consideration, did not afford Marks of this kind; your Lordship will pardon me if the Sneers in the following Paragraph favour ~~to me~~ of one of those Principles. I will quote the whole.

‘ In p. 136. we find a most exalted Sketch of her Grace’s Character, both as a Christian and a Politician. She could have forgiven even the Earl of Rochester, if she had thought that he would have followed the Queen’s true Interest; and she was a Whig, only because the Principles of the Tories appeared Gibberish, and those of the Whigs rational, and no ways to the Prejudice of the Church as by Law established. Having thus discussed her Religious and Political Character, we have in the same Page a Specimen of her Natural one; that so not one of all the Circle of amiable Qualities may be wanting in her Composition.’ “ As this, says her Grace, was really “ my Way of thinking concerning the two Parties, it



“ would have been contrary to the Frankness of my  
 “ Temper, and to the Obligation of that Friendship  
 “ with which the Queen honoured me, not to have  
 “ told her my Sentiments without Reserve.”

These Sneers are not, I think, agreeable either to the Sex or the Dignity of the Person, who is the Subject of them.

I am as unwilling as your Lordship to detract from Sir George Rook's Character. He was a brave Man, and his Victory a signal one ; but that *the taking Gibraltar doth as much credit to Queen Anne's Reign, as any Action that happened in it*, I can no more concede than I can that his present M——of P——is as great a Soldier as *Charles XII. of Sweden*. That we have indeed little to show for all those glorious Victories, which will render the Duke of *Marlborough's* Name equal to that of the greatest Commanders of Antiquity, besides the torn Colours in *Westminster-Hall*, I am sorry to allow ; but I believe no one will impute this to his Grace.

What your Lordship says of Mr. *Harley* shall not be controverted by me. I shall only observe, that what her Grace says both of him and others, will require more Ink, more Eloquence, more Art and more Proofs too, to set aside, than your Lordship hath been pleased to employ at present.

I shall now proceed to take notice of those general Slanders which, though your Lordship hath been pleased to disperse through the whole Letter, I shall endeavour to collect together. Page 8. Was not the Character of Her Grace's Mildness and Disinterestedness so well established, it would be natural to think that there must have been some secret Mismanagement ; some Instances of flagrant Insolence and Rapaciousness, that could effect this wonderful Change. Page 9. The Lye oblique is given. Page 12. She is accus'd of downright Affectation. 15. The Lye oblique. Page 19. She is upbraided with the little Capacity which Age and Infirmities have left her for Enjoyments. Page 29, her Grace's Doubt and Backwardness about receiving a Pension of a thousand a Year, is so very agreeable

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agreeable to her known Aversion to Money, that your Lordship can make no doubt of the Fact. Page 33. The Lye semidirect. Page 34. A fresh Instance of her Grace's known Disinterestedness and Generosity. *Ibid.* Her Grace's exaggerated Account of her own Merits. Page 37. Her forgiving Temper ironically. Page 39. Charged with treating King *William* with Indecency. Page 46. Charged with Spite. Page 48. With Ingratitude. *Ibid.* With Cant. *Ibid.* With Insolence. Page 49. She is represented as a Tyrant *Passim*, charged with Ill-nature and governing her Husband.

Will any Man say, my Lord, that this is a proper manner of treating a Woman of her Grace's exalted Station and Character, one of her Age, who hath lived upon such an intimate footing with her Sovereign, and who is the Widow of so great a Man, one to whom this Nation in particular, and all *Europe* in general, are so much obliged?

Many, indeed most of these Slanders are such as do no injury, but to the Person who vents them. I shall only remark one, in Page 8, her Grace is obliquely charged with Rapaciousness; as in another place, with inordinate Love of Money.

That her Grace is rich, is most undoubtedly certain. It is impossible to be otherwise; Extravagance itself, without other Vices, could not have prevented it. The many great and lucrative Employments, with which both her Grace and the late Duke were so long invested, and the vast Settlement on the Family by Act of Parliament, sufficiently account for it.

But that her Grace discharged her Trust with Fidelity, and that she saved the Queen vast Sums of Money, which she might have visibly sunk into her own Pocket; that she never submitted to any mean or dishonest Arts of enriching herself, are Facts not asserted only, but proved, in the Account she hath been pleased to give of her own Conduct.

Nor do I remember to have ever heard her accused of any public Rapaciousness or private Exaction.

She is indeed rich, and if her Enemies accuse her of that, I believe she must plead guilty, at least I have nothing to say in her Vindication.

But, perhaps it may be some Alleviation even of this, that this Wealth was got in the greatest and most eminent Service of her Country; and if the Tears of Widows and Orphans attended it, they were the Widows and Orphans of those who were in open Arms against this Kingdom.

2dly, That the Influence and Power, which her Grace from her great Fortune enjoys, hath been constantly exerted in Defence of the Liberties of her Country against the highest, most powerful, and most insolent Invaders of it. Had the Weight of the Dutchess of *Marlborough* been lately thrown into the Scale of Corruption, the Nation must have sunk under it: But, on the contrary, her whole Power hath been employed in the Defence of our Liberties, and to this Power we in a very great measure owe their Protection; and this, barbarous and inhuman Exultations of the Corruptor and his chief Friends last Winter expressed on her Grace's dangerous Illness, and their eager Expectation of her Death, which they declared would do their Business, sufficiently testify. So that this Nation may be truly said to have been twice saved within 40 Years by the glorious Conduct of this Illustrious Pair; and whoever considers this in a just light, must acknowledge, that no Name ought to be so dear to the People of *England*, as that of the Dutchess of *Marlborough*.

Lastly, To this Fortune many private Persons and Families, who have been relieved by her Grace's Generosity, owe their Preservation. Nor do I believe any Person in her time hath equalled her Donations of this kind: So your Lordship hath, I think, chosen a very improper Subject for so much Calumny, which, unless we could suppose this Nation to deserve a Character of the blackest Ingratitude, must be very distasteful to us all, when thrown on ONE, to whom so many in particular, and the whole People in general, are so gratefully obliged.

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But, before I quit this Glorious Woman, whose Character I never have contemplated but with Admiration, I shall just mention a Reflection interspersed through this mighty Performance, and which is agreeable to what hath been always reported by the lowest and most ignorant of her Grace's Enemies ; I mean, the representing her as a Woman of great Pride and Haughtiness. That her Grace is superior to all Meanness, that she knows her own great Consequence, that her vast Abilities are no more hid from herself, than from those who have the Honour of her Conversation, I agree readily. That these have produced an Elevation of Mind which can with Scorn look down on the pitiful Arts of her Adversaries, is as true. But, I suppose, your Lordship meant not this. Do you not rather mean, that Greatness of Mind with which the Dutchess hath asserted her Dignity to those who would falsely flatter themselves with the Imagination of being her Superiors, or as vainly pretend to be her Equals. I can truly affirm no such Pride hath been ever shewn to those who have acknowledged themselves to be her Inferiors, to whom none can equal her in Affability and Condescension.

I shall now take leave of your Lordship for this time, and I hope for ever ; but if you should think proper to keep your Word (which I hardly think you will) in laying open those Particulars in the latter Part of Queen *Anne's* Reign, which you say are of a different nature from the Facts represented by her Grace, you may depend on a second Letter, tho' perhaps differing somewhat in gentleness with this, from

*Your Lordship's*

*most Obedient Humble Servant.*

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